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Regional Service Council Minutes Region #12

Meeting Date: April 14, 2014
Meeting Location: Fayette County DCS Conference Room
Meeting Chair: Kelly Persinger
Meeting Secretary: Myrna Baldwin

Meeting Called to Order at: 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Kelly Persinger, DCS Regional Manager; Mark Munchel and Kathy Hobson, Fayette County DCS; Bill Ammerman, Rush County DCS; Hannah Robinson, Franklin/Union County DCS; Kelly Broyles, Wayne County DCS; Judge Beth Ann Butsch, Fayette County Circuit Court; Judge Mary Willis, Henry County Circuit Court; and Miranda Chamberlin Henry County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Chelsea Givens, Rush County DCS; Karen Bowen, Wayne County CASA; and Judge Brian Hill, Rush Superior Court.

Others In Attendance: Bob Daugherty, DCS Regional Finance Manager; Jon Bennett and Carl Scheib Children's Bureau; Kara Casavan, Regional Child Welfare Services Consultants; Susan Lightfoot, and Esther Kaelin, Henry County Probation; Kelly Hunckler, Gibault; Jennifer Moore, CHOICES; Sarah Helderman, Whites Residential; Kory George and Adam McQueen, Wayne County Probation; Norm Smith, Wernle; Jennifer Landis, Lifeline; Kristy Prosser, Lutheran Child and Family Services; Kaarin Lueck, Wayne County Public Defender's Office; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad Child and Family Services; Sarah Gehring, Villages of Indiana; Anthony Ooley, Extra Special Parents and Sarah McCashland, Centerstone.

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome, Introductions and New Members**
 - a) Meeting agenda distributed, introductions made.



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II. Approval of Minutes

Mark Munchel moved to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2014 meeting. Kathy Hobson seconded the motion which was passed with no opposing votes. Minutes approved.

III. Update on Community Partners for Child Safety Program:

The *Community Partners for Child Safety and Continuous Quality Improvement* report was distributed.

Carl Scheib reported:

- Referrals- 1st quarter 2014 total referrals 200; 84 self referrals;
- Material relief- January, 2014 \$2,158, February, 2014 \$3,596. March numbers are not in yet.
- Events-
 - The Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) workshop went very well- 67 were in attendance;
 - April's Prevent Child Abuse celebrations in Region 12 were very nice, the weather cooperated and attendance was up from 2013 in all counties. Jon Bennett, Children's Bureau, was a keynote speaker along with the Governor at the celebration in Indianapolis.
 - Over 900 cans of food were received from a fraternity which was then distributed to those in need.
- Outcomes- Scheib noted that all state standards have been met or exceeded every quarter of every year although one standard from the state has fallen a bit this quarter. The standard that *"90% of families receiving 8 or more face-to-face contacts will not have a substantiated child abuse case following the 8th contact for a period of 12 months after discharge"* fell .8% in the first quarter from 95% to 94.2%. Scheib noted this standard is a very hard one to meet.

IV. Prevention Dollars Allocation:

Persinger distributed the draft Child Welfare Services "Brokered" Allocated Funds for Region 12 for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, which includes the following:

- \$21, 500 Summers/Schools ROCK substance abuse prevention program serving Fayette and Rush Counties
- \$5,375 Prevent child Abuse/Domestic Violence for all counties
- \$21,500 Positive Parenting, Cradles serving Henry County
- \$21,500 Positive Parenting, Diplomas serving Wayne County
- \$7,525 Family Fun Day serving Franklin County
- \$125,000 CPCS Operations
- \$29,931.78 CPCS Material Relief



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After discussion, Bill Ammerman moved to accept the projected allocations as written with Hannah Robinson seconding. The motion passes with no opposing votes.

V. **Regional Coordinator Report:**

Kara Casavan reporting:

- Region 12 to open a Request for Proposals (RFP) within the next 2-3 weeks. Casavan asked for feedback from the council as to services;
- The comprehensive service package will be rolling out in the next 2 weeks. This will be available to probation also.

Discussion: the time line for the RFP is unknown as Central Office sets the time once paperwork is submitted; Kara will contact Myrna Baldwin for distribution when the RFP is open; the region is hitting a brick wall for therapist- this is a statewide trend; the state will need to increase the amount allocated for therapists in order to keep qualified people; without qualified therapists we end up placing more which costs more dollars in the long run; services- detox and domestic violence, substance abuse and diagnostic evaluation.

Judge Willis questioned that if our dollars are paying, how we can expand Educational “Specialists” Liaisons services to include probation also. Persinger noted this question has been asked before and guided Judge Willis to contact Lisa Rich who is over the program. Persinger added that the program is very good to which Judge Willis noted that is why probation wants them. Ammerman wondered if a RFP could be submitted for this. Casavan stated Educational Liaisons are DCS employees and a new service standard wouldn’t be written. Casavan added she will speak with her chain of command regarding this. Kory George stated he would ask the same for Clinical Consultants for probation also and asked if probation could help leverage these issues. Persinger replied that Donald Travis, Probation Deputy Director, would be a great contact.

VI. **Regional Finance Manager Report:**

Daugherty distributed the *Family and Children Services Financial Status Report-Region 12, State Fiscal Year 2013-2014, Cumulative for March 2014*. Daugherty reported the allocated budget for Region 12 is \$6,749,531. Year to date expenditures: DCS \$3,697,150; Probation \$2,732,956 totaling \$6,430,106 or 95% of the budget with three (3) months to go; probation is at 99%, DCS at 92%. Daugherty noted the Region should be at 75% of the budget. The biggest increase is wards in institutions.

Persinger noted probation is using more foster care placements instead of institutions. Willis stated if least restrictive is the goal, then the foster care budget goes up. Persinger added the only children in institutions now are the ones who need to be there. To which Judge Willis explained, ties back to the therapy issue. Daugherty stated they had seen the trend state wide, but had not heard the therapy issue as the reasoning. Willis added, to see a decrease in institution cost, increase the therapist per diem. This in turn, Persinger added, is an increase in preservation.

Ammerman stated he is hoping to utilize the Community Mental Health Initiative (CMHI) to provide wrap around services so that a case doesn’t have to be opened. Region 12 was the last region to roll out the CMHI and Persinger noted there has been no data received as to how the initiative is going.



VII. Other Business:

Anthony Ooley, Extra Special Parents (ESP), gave a brief overview of their program. ESP provides substance abuse assessment/treatment to Region 12. ESP can provide the service in home, at the jail, or can provide transportation to the ESP office. They have been in service since 2013 based in Richmond, Virginia, and are seeking to expand to all of Indiana. They recently purchased an office in Greensburg, Indiana, and are currently looking to buy a property in Milroy, Indiana.

VIII. Public Comment:

- Kory George asked is there is a formal way for probation to be on the council. Persinger stated there is no a formal way and that would have to be changed at the legislature.
- Susan Lightfoot asked if a RFP could be issued for Extra Special Parents for probation parents and children. Ammerman noted the biennial plan reflects the same need. We have parent services but don't have a lot of services for children. He added there are very few residential facilities willing to take 13-14 year olds.
- Sarah Gehring, Villages of Indiana, noted that Villages provides adoption services, respite care and post adoption services. Persinger added probation can use these services as well. The Special Needs Adoption Program (SNAP) contact person for Region 12 is Marty Ogden.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on July 14, 2014, at 3:30pm, at the Fayette County Local DCS Office.

Meeting Adjourned:

Bill Ammerman moved to adjourn the meeting with Miranda Chamberlin and Kathy Hobson seconding. The motion passed with no opposing votes. Meeting adjourned at 4:22 P.M.

